App. F. IX-4

Previous References. 1943-44 (War) W File No. 180-43.
Serial Nos. 1 & 2.

Later References.

(6)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos. Two only.

Part B for March 1944.

SUBJECT

Travel permits to enemy subjects & foreigners.

Krishnan.
11.4.44.

2290 W

Continuation Sheet. W File No. Current No. 180 of 43-44. Page.

Secret. 1

From The Secy to G Herbt G Regrt
DO No F 45/1944 d 18th March 44 requiring whether
this Govt has any objection to G permission asked for
by Mr Hermanns, a former National, to proceed to
Yelwal for in order to interview G Mg Director of G
Mysore Plywoods Corporation.

Asks for parl and states whether G ISP
who is G Civil Authority for G Dist may be consulted upon

G.O 168 d 21st Mar 44.

RS 20/3 SG

- for favour of remarks
Interrogation - 2
To The Chief Secretary with compliments
2 Chief Secretary
24/3/44

SECRET.

No.F.C.670/43-44
March 23, 1944.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 24. MAR. 1944 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

OFFICE FOR H... W LAW. 24 MAR 1944 No. 5889.

Retransmitted, with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

Since Mr.Herrmanns' political antecedents are not bad, the permission sought for may be granted. However, he will be kept under the usual restrictions at Bangalore.

S. Nadamuni
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.
23/3

Asks with a ref to G Reg

I
Min (A+C)
RCC.
24.3

RS 24/3 SG

2. Issued D.O. No. Pol 2023 d 27.3.44 to Regy
Memo No. W2291 d 27.3.44 to I.G.P.

WD 1140—GPB—50,000—5-11-43

W 180-43-1 Secret.

D.O. F. 45/1944.

THE RESIDENCY MYSORE

Bangalore,
18th March 194

2290/W

My dear Vedavyasachary.

I am desired to say that Mr. Kurt Herrmanns, a German national at liberty in Calcutta, has applied for permission to proceed to Yeswantpur in order to interview the Managing Director of the Mysore Plywoods Corporation Ltd regarding employment.

2. The Government of Bengal state that he is under the usual restrictions in Calcutta and they have no objection to the proposed move. A dossier on Mr. Kurt Herrmanns is enclosed.

3. Will you kindly let me know at an early date whether the Government of Mysore have any objection to the permission asked for being granted.

Yours sincerely
A.R. Bowie

V. Vedavyasachariya Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
Mysore, Bangalore.

Proforma
Wav.

Dossier.

Kurt Hermanns was born in the Rhineland in 1902. Until shortly before the outbreak of the present war he was employed in a firm of Jewish furniture makers at Bonn, until that firm was confiscated (allegedly) by the Nazis. Through the good offices of the Bombay Branch of the Jewish Relief Society he then obtained employment with Messrs. Frizonni & Co., at Sitapur as an engineer in their plywood factory. Visas permitting Mr. Hermanns and his wife to enter British India were granted by the British Consul at Cologne in August 1939 but cancelled owing to the outbreak of war. It is reported that Mr. and Mrs. Hermanns then left Germany for Amsterdam on 3.9.39 but this statement would appear to be a trifle inaccurate, unless one is to believe that the visas were cancelled on 3.9.39 i.e. the outbreak of war as far as England is concerned, and Mr. Hermanns was able to leave the same day for Amsterdam. It is reported that visas were granted to him and his wife in Government of India, Home Department No.58/149/39-Political dated 5th February 1940.

The couple arrived in India in due course and Mr. Hermanns took up his appointment with the factory at Sitapur. On the 6th of July 1940 Mr. Hermanns' movements were restricted to the factory where he was employed and to his residential quarters. In their note on this case the U.P.police, Aliens Branch, state "Consequent on the service of this restriction order Hermanns was discharged by the firm. He and his wife were therefore sent to the Parole Camp at Naini Tal where they arrived on 26.2.41. Under the authority of the Home Department Government of India No.72/5/12/40 Political (E) of 1.8.41 the Hermanns were permitted to be released from the Internment Camp, if they were able to maintain themselves satisfactorily at liberty."

Early in 1942 Kurt Hermanns was negotiating with

the Britannia Building & Iron Co Ltd Calcutta for an emp oyment and on 27.2.42 this firm wrote to the U.P. Police stating "Mr. Hermanns has informed us that he thinks he can get his release from the Parole Camp if he can prove his being engaged for permanent work with a firm of good repute." In due course an agreement for Mr. Hermanns employment was reached and he arrived in Calcutta in March 1942.

Within less than a year trouble arose between Messrs. Holmes, Wilson & CO (Principals of the Britannia Building & Iron Co Ltd) and Mr. Hermanns. Messrs. Holmes Wilson appealed to the Security Control office for inter-vention but were informed that, that office was not concerned with Mr. Herrmanns personal differences with his employers and was only interested in his political and general behaviour. It transpired that Mr. Hermanns had been negotiating for other, and supposedly, more lucrative, employment with the firm of Messrs. Francis Klein (Principals of Union Plywood Products) Messrs. Holmes Wilson complained that Mr. Herrmanns had shown bad faith towards his employers and in due course the matter was settled by Mr. Herrmanns winding up his current responsibilities in the workshops of Messrs. Holmes, Wilson and taking up a new employment with Messrs. Franci Klein in the Union Plywood Products' factory.

During the past three months the Deputy Commissioners of Police, Security Control, has received several visits from the Director of Union Plywood Products complaining of Mr. Hermanns' disloyalty, dishonesty and generally unsatisfactory behaviour and work. A report on this connection is attached. Apart from the enclosed application for permission to go to

Bombay Mr. Herrmanns informs this office that he now intends to work independently as a Consulting Engineer. Incidentally, it has been pointed out to him that he has no trading permit to do so.

-Copy-

Appendix F. G.—1]

SUBJECT.....

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Section War

File No. 180-43

Serial No. 2.

Diary No. of letter replied to.....2290/W.

Secret

No. Pol 2023

To The Asst to the Standing Counsel Dacca.

Dear Sir.

With reference to your D.O No F. 45/1944 d 18th March 44 I am directed to state that there is no objection to Mr Kurt Hermanns, a German National at liberty in Calcutta, proceeding to Ystwalpur in order to undertake the duties of Engineering at Messrs Plywoods Corporation on engagement. (I am to add that he will be kept under close surveillance at Ystwalpur.)

yrs.

WP 27/3

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 194 .

Date of issue... 27. 3. 1944

Signed by... for V. V. S.

List of enclosures... Subject to approval.

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

Memo. No. W 2291

Copy to DSP.